



SUN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1902.
Fair to-day and probably to-morrow.

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TILLMAN AND M'LAURIN FIGHT

PUGILISTIC ENCOUNTER IN THE SENATE CHAMBER.

Tillman had charged that the votes of his colleagues had been purchased with patronage, and McLauren had retorted that during his absence today the gentleman from South Carolina—"No," he said, by way of correction—"the Senator from South Carolina, who has just taken his seat, said that improper influences had been used in changing the vote of somebody on the treaty, and then went on later and said that it applied to the Senator from South Carolina who had been given the patronage of that State."

"I desire to say (and I would not use as strong language as I will do, had I not, soon after the Senate met, replied to that insinuation and said that it was untrue, that that statement is a vilified, deliberate and malicious lie."

The words had hardly been spoken before Mr. Tillman, with cat-like agility and ferocity, had crossed the narrow space which separated him from his antagonist, and before anybody could intervene to prevent it, the two Senators were pouncing each other in close quarters. In an instant a dozen Senators had hold of the pugilists and drew them apart by main force, while all the other Senators and spectators were shocked at the spectacle thus presented.

The presiding officer (Mr. Frye) vainly used his gavel to restore order and to bring the Senate to its usual decorous condition. And finally, in order to give the Senate an opportunity to recover its dignity, an executive session was ordered, the doors were closed and the galleries were vacated.

In secret session and after a debate lasting more than two hours the Senate unanimously voted both Senators to be in contempt, and then by a vote of 41 to 18 referred the matter to the Committee on Privileges and Elections for report.

In open session apologies were made by the two Senators, but no action was taken by the Senate to declare them purged of contempt. Tillman couched his apology with a long statement, in which he declared that under the circumstances he could not have acted otherwise. McLauren, while regretting the intemperate language, justified it by the brutal attack that had been made on his honor and integrity.

He began a warning in the nature of a threat against any future accusations that he was bribed to vote for the Paris treaty, but one of the Senators sitting near him persuaded him to sit down, leaving the sentence unfinished.

The Senate took no action on their apologies and did not remove the ban of contempt. They addressed the Senate to go by special vote of the body, but will not be permitted to speak again until permission is granted or the ban removed. This may not be for a week or ten days, or until after the committee has acted.

SOUTH CAROLINA SHOCKED.

Fight Between its Senators Has Aroused a Sense of Shame.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 22.—It was late this evening when the public heard of the fight in the Senate between the South Carolina Senators. The occurrence is regarded by the factions as shocking and disgraceful, although McLauren is considered justified in denouncing Senator Tillman's charges.

Denounced Senator Tillman's charges, and resent being called a liar in such a manner. It is the first time in his heated career of fourteen years that he has noticed such a charge.

Time and again Senator Tillman has been charged with lying and other offenses against morals, but he has not appealed to force to vindicate his character. He has been charged by some of his colleagues with being a liar in such a manner. It is the first time in his heated career of fourteen years that he has noticed such a charge.

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PRINCE HENRY HEARD FROM.

KRONPRINZ WILHELM SIGNALS NANTUCKET AT 9:22 P. M.

Due Here Early This Forenoon.—The Reception Programme for Today Altered.—No Chance to Go to Grant's Tomb.—Deutsche Verein Reception Stands.

NANTUCKET, Mass., Feb. 22.—The Kronprinz Wilhelm exchanged signals with the Nantucket South Shoal lightship at 9:22 o'clock to-night.

The steamer was about sixty miles from the lightship when they got into communication.

All on board were well. The ship had very heavy weather.

The lightship is sixty miles off the island of Nantucket and 200 nautical miles from Sandy Hook. The Kronprinz Wilhelm is being about sixty miles south of the lightship when she was signalled, has roughly 215 miles to make before she reaches this port.

The steamer on her stormiest former passage made an average of more than 21 knots an hour. At this rate it would take her a little more than ten hours to reach her destination and would bring her to the Hook about 7:30 o'clock this morning.

The Kronprinz made in the earlier part of this trip an hourly average of only about 19½ knots, but the weather conditions have improved and she is likely to complete her journey at the rate of about 22 knots.

The wireless instrument on the Hohenzollern had received nothing up to midnight.

Yesterday was not far advanced when any hope of receiving Prince Henry was abandoned for the night.

On the Lucania's bulletin from Liverpool, that she had exchanged wireless messages with the Kronprinz Wilhelm on Wednesday at 4:57, it was figured out by the nautical sharpshooter that the Kronprinz was then about 1,300 miles west of Cherbourg and had averaged 19.42 knots.

It is probable that she could not better this in the terrific winter seas. She still had about 1,700 miles to cover to the Sandy Hook lightship. Maintaining this average it should take her ninety hours more to complete her trip, which it was figured out, should bring her off the lightship this morning.

The Cunarder Etruria, which has a wireless apparatus, sailed yesterday at 3 o'clock. All night long Operator Allen and his assistants took turns in watching the lightship for a remark from the Kronprinz, but up to sailing time none had been received.

Mr. Allen was in hopes of "picking up" the German steamer before the Etruria got to Sandy Hook. In that case the arrangement was that the Etruria would fly the German flag at her foremost as a signal to the operator at Sandy Hook that the vessel was coming.

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When at last the false security of the hour-and-a-half brilliant armory spectacle had been broken and the halls of the hotel began to fill with smoke most of those who got the alarm ran instinctively toward the stairway which they most used.

The smoke was so thick that in it a man could not see his hand before him, and many a one who did not know that there were flames on the floor of the hotel was surrounded by a sheet of fire and burned to death before he was aware of the danger.

The positions of the bodies told the story in many instances of how some, running with their hands before them through the smoke-clogged halls, turned the corner into that front corridor of the hotel and were snuffed dead by the swirling eddies of flame that were invisible behind the pall until they came to the door of the room.

Here and there one or two were found who had suffocated by smoke.

One man, a war veteran, Col. Alexander F. Piper, was brought through the whole disaster only to die of heart disease induced by the horror of the scenes through which he had passed. Another, made mad with fright because he could not find his way in the smoke clouds which filled the corridors of the hotel, when he had come to the door of the room, he had jumped out. He fell three stories and was killed on the roof of a stable beneath.

Others who were within twenty steps of the safe back stairs climbed out of their windows and clung precariously to the sheet-sheathed sills until the firemen came with extension ladders and scaling ladders and rescued them, while down in the street a few men who had lost all interest in the fire as a spectacle, shouted hysterically in tremulous chorus and individual appeal: "Don't jump; for God's sake, don't jump; you are safe."

BELIEVE VANDALS DID IT.

It may easily happen that the hand of the law will never be laid on any man to hold him to responsibility for the deaths of the sixteen and the injuries of the many. But District Attorney Jerome, Fire Commissioner Sturges, Fire Chief Croker, Fire Marshal Friel were all busy yesterday in the pursuit of the man who was at the bottom of the horror.

Only one who was in the streets near the hotel last night can feel altogether the miserable needlessness of the disaster. The great blaze in the armory was roaring up toward the sky; thousands of musket cartridges were sounding a racket such as made old soldiers flush and throw back their heads and laugh and shout with the excitement of remembered battles.

The windows of the hotel, diagonally across the street from the armory, were full of men and women, some dressed fully, and some merely bundled in wraps, looking at the towering, swinging column of wind-driven sparks and fire brands. Sometimes beams from the armory, glowing and blazing, went floating like bits of burning paper, and landed on the sparks clouds.

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The only other decorations on the yacht were a double string of small incandescent lamps running all around the hull of the yacht, and a couple of small flags flying from the waterline and the other floating on the rail around the yacht.

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